

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BEIRUT 02295 241355Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00
ICAE-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00
PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-12 IO-13 OMB-01 TRSE-00
/086 W

-----039826 241357Z /53

O R 241314Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7723
INFO SIT-REP COLLECTIVE
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
USLO RIYADH
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER
USNMR SHAPE BELGIUM
CINCUSNAVEUR, LONDON ENG
CINCUSAFE RAMSTEIN AB GER
COMSIXTHFLT
CTF SIX ZERO
CTF SIX ONE
CTF SIX TWO
CTG SIX ZERO PT TWO
FICEURLANT NORFOLK VA
FOSIF ROTA SPAIN
DIA WASHDC
CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG GER
USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES IT

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 2295

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS, PINT, MILI, ASEC, LE
SUBJ: LEBANESE SITUATION, APRIL 24, 1300 HOURS LOCAL

REF: BEIRUT 2266 (DTG 211315Z APR 78)

1. SUMMARY. THE AD HOS PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE OF
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THIRTEEN AGREED ON A STATEMENT AFFIRMING THE NECESSITY
OF STOPPING ARMED PALESTINIAN ACTION THROUGHOUT LEBANON.
L'ORIENT LE-JOUR REPORTED THAT SARKIS WOULD APPOINT A
NEW PRIME MINISTER BY APRIL 26. THE CEASE-FIRES IN AYN
AR-RUMMANEH AND SOUTH LEBANON ARE HOLDING. END SUMMARY.

2. COMMITTEE OF THIRTEEN.

IN WHAT L'ORIENT-JOUR HAILED AS A "BOMB BURSTING IN POLITICAL CIRCLES THAT HAS CONSIDERABLY STRENGTHENED THE CLIMATE OF DETENTE," THE PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE OF THIRTEEN OF APRIL 23 ADOPTED A SIX-POINT PROCLAMATION AFFIRMING THE NEED FOR "THE CESSATION OF PALESTINIAN AND OTHER ARMED ACTION THROUGHOUT LEBANON'S TERRITORY" (SEPTTEL). THE AD HOC COMMITTEE OF THIRTEEN, WHICH INCLUDES DEPUTIES OF ALL THE PRINCIPAL CONFESSIONAL GROUPS, WAS FORMED ON APRIL 20.

3. NEW GOVERNMENT.

MOST PAPERS BELIEVED THAT THE AGREEMENT OF THE COMMITTEE OF THIRTEEN WOULD FACILITATE THE FORMATION OF A NEW GOVERNMENT. L'ORIENT-LE JOUR ON APRIL 24 CITED INFORMED SOURCES AS SAYING THAT PRESIDENT SARKIS WAS "PROFOUNDLY SATISFIED" WITH THE COMMITTEE OF THIRTEEN'S STATEMENT AND THAT HE WOULD NAME A NEW PRIME MINISTER WITHIN 48 HOURS. L'ORIENT-LE JOUR REPEATED THAT OUTGOING PRIME MINISTER SALIM AL-HOSS REMAINED THE FRONT RUNNER.

4. SITUATION IN AYN AR-RUMMANEH-SHIAH.

THE EVENING OF APRIL 21, OCCASIONAL SMALL ARMS FIRE WAS HEARD BETWEEN ABOUT 2100 HOURS LOCAL TIME AND 2400 HOURS LOCAL TIME. THE AREA HAS BEEN QUIET SINCE. ALL SCHOOLS
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IN EAST BEIRUT REOPENED MORNING APRIL 24.

5. SITUATION IN SOUTH LEBANON.

SOUTH LEBANON REMAINS RELATIVELY CALM. UN MIDDLE EAST COMMANDER SIILASVUO ARRIVED IN BEIRUT MORNING OF APRIL 24 FOR A ONE-DAY VISIT. PARKER

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Message Attributes

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